

THE ORACLE.

EXPONENT OF WEST GATE PHILOSOPHY.

ISSUED MONTHLY.

CHARLES H. MACKAY, - - - - - Editor and Publisher.

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Personal Magnetism.

No. 4.

The question of bathing is one which appears to trouble a great many people who are seeking subjective attainments. One class is sure that cold water should always be employed; another class is just as positive that warm water, only, should be used. Now this point should be settled entirely by the individual. One person may be greatly benefitted by cold water bathing while another would be injured, and *vice versa*. A rule, applicable to all, cannot be wisely given. But it is safe to say that warm water bathing, in winter, is best for those who are just commencing the regular daily habit; then gradually the water may be used a little colder until the body is accustomed to the ice cold bath which so many are sure brings them great benefit. To those who desire a sensible, and not too heroic, method of bathing we would suggest first a thorough going over of the body with warm water and soap (used sparingly) and then follow closely with cold (not ice cold) water. All to be taken as sponge bath. Then immediately rub the body dry with a coarse towel. This treatment twice a week is all sufficient during the winter months. In summer the daily bath may be advantageously taken.

I wish to call your attention to an exercise to be practiced in your room occasionally, just before retiring. This exercise calls into action muscles which seldom are brought into real, hard service.

Here it is : stand erect with the back toward the wall, the heels six inches from the base-board and the feet close together. Place the hands upon the sides and then very slowly allow the whole body to fall back until the shoulders touch the wall. After a brief rest resume the erect posture. Do all this without bending at the hips or knees. Do it by force of muscular action entirely. If you can do it easily with the heels six inches from the wall, then increase the distance until considerable effort is required, but being careful that the strain across the abdomen is not severe, else at first you are very liable to injure yourself. After practicing in this manner for five minutes you may vary the exercise by greatly increasing the distance from the wall and then bend at the hips when you allow the shoulders to fall back ; then when you resume the erect position give the body a slight impetus by resting the back of the head against the wall and using the muscles of the neck as the moving power. . . . All exercises of this kind tend to give strength and reserve force at those centres which seldom get healthful action in ordinary daily life. Thus building up the weak links we raise the power of the entire "chain."

Aquarius People.

Jan. 20.—Feb. 19.

Here is the sign which, of all others, takes most prominent part in affairs of the business and social world. These people want to be in direct contact with the bustle and activity of life. They do not care for retirement. They are happiest when directly engaged in something which takes all their interest and energy and are usually found in the centre of all great political, social and ethical movements. Usually they are not possessed with a superabundance of physical strength, yet they have a mysterious quality of vital force which carries them through the most severe trials. They are fine and sensitive and make lovable companions and friends. Aquarius is an air sign and

in all associations will find most harmony with the other members of this triplicity, namely, Gemini and Libra people. Many people of great renown have been born under this sign. We append a list of those best known. —Emperor William II, of Germany, Jan. 27, 1859; Emanuel Swedenborg, Jan. 29, 1688; Jas. G. Blaine, Jan. 31, 1830; Horace Greeley, Feb. 3, 1811; D. L. Moody, Feb. 5, 1837; Wm. M. Evarts, Feb. 6, 1818; Millard Fillmore, Feb. 7, 1800; Chas. Dickens, Feb. 7, 1812; John Ruskin, Feb. 8, 1819; Wm. H. Harrison, Feb. 9, 1773; Sam'l J. Tilden, Feb. 9, 1814; Gen. Jno. A. Logan, Feb. 8, 1826; Thos. A. Edison, Feb. 11, 1847; Abraham Lincoln, Feb. 12, 1809; Chas. Darwin, Feb. 12, 1809; Susan B. Anthony, Feb. 15, 1820; Daniel Dudley Field, Feb. 13, 1805; Helen Dauvray (Gibson), Feb. 14, 1859; Geo. Peabody, Feb. 18, 1795; Adelina Patti, Feb. 19, 1843.

NOTE.—Brief delineations of all people have now been published in the *Oracle*. The series began in the issue of March, 1896. Back numbers of the *Oracle* are ten cents each.

—The private lessons issued from time to time by the founder of the W. G. Philosophy are useful to students of every branch of occult research. Those who wish to develop powers of healing, clairvoyance, mediumship, teaching, etc., etc., all find inestimable benefit in our lessons. The "White Eagle" series forcibly illustrate this fact. The letters received in praise of these lessons would, if published, make a volume of most interesting reading matter. I make such easy terms to all worthy students that weak finances need not prove a barrier.

—I may be one of the "tares" and I may be a sheaf of "wheat" but whichever I am I know that the separation, full and forever, will come in due course of time. We are strangely associated with people of widely divergent tastes and ambitions. The purpose of this association is not as yet entirely clear to me, but I know it cannot go on forever. I cannot accuse any one of "wickedness," rather I will say they are "different," and this accounts for the inharmony between us.

—The new W. G. Lessons known as the WHITE EAGLE COURSE have met with the most enthusiastic reception. Letters of praise and gratitude are constantly coming to me from students who are taking these lessons, and who are sufficiently awakened to the true spirit of the teaching. The central thought of this course is the mystery of the creative function, and upon this point I have spoken as clearly and forcibly as language allows. I have shown that right here rests the secret of all the success of life and of all occult unfoldment; more particularly astral experiences and the higher manifestations and phases of guidance from the Invisible. The price for the full course is five dollars. I allow the student to make his own terms of payment; for I have so great confidence in the power of these principles, not only to raise you spiritually, but also to make of yourself a magnetic centre for the attraction of money and all worldly necessities, that I do not question for a moment that you will be able to meet the payments. I doubt, if in the annals of occult teaching a more generous and unselfish proposition has been made. Through the study of these principles I propose to make teachers and healers of you, and thus open up your life work. I guarantee that this will follow your faithful consideration of the secrets which the lessons disclose.

Misfortune is principally due to your *lack of vital force*! Attain the ideal state of *balance* and you will become a perfect storage battery for the attraction of all needed things, including, as one of the least, full *prosperity in finance*. I have imparted the principles for generating and radiating the forces of the reproductive functions. Through new drills and exercises I am giving information in this connection which has never been given before, save to the chosen few. This is a vital and pivotal principle in the new lessons. But I can promise nothing, *absolutely* nothing, to those who cannot live the W. G. life of purity. To be sure even a *partial* acceptance of our principles will bring more or less benefit in a business or worldly manner,

but we can hardly expect true spiritual attainment from a half-way sort of faithfulness. If, however, you can freely and fully guide your desires into paths of divine usefulness you will henceforth need have no fear but that you are proceeding directly toward the Highest. True success awaits you if you have the will power to keep steadily in this path.

The "White Eagle" leads upward from lessons previously given. In this series of lessons you are exhorted to take a higher and purer standard of life. You are admonished to so live that communion with W. G. Invisibles may be known. You are beckoned to enter realms heretofore unexplored.

—Astrology! One of the grandest of studies, yet how generally misunderstood and mis-used! The average modern "astrologer" has not yet passed the threshold of his science. Why? Simply because he neglects the *foundation*, namely, study of and familiarity with the *stars* which make up the alphabet of the Celestial language he essays to speak. Would you believe that we have "astrologers," teachers of the science, who have written volumes upon the subject, who predict your "past, present and future," but yet who cannot point out even the principle stars of the Zodiacal constellations? Commence right. If you aspire to master astrological principles get *en rapport* with the stars first, and *knowing* them they become your life friends.

—I would like the date of birth of all members of the W. G. B. who have joined since Sept. 1st, 1896; also, information as to whether married or single. This is for the purpose of preparing a list of the Brotherhood to be sent to all members for mutual benefit. The list will be prepared in such a manner that the names will not be intelligible except to the "initiated," so you need have no fear of publicity. Doubtless it will be a month or more before the list is ready and then each member will be given a copy with explanation.

—Again I wish to state that *money* has a small part in this question of colony formation. When the right sort of people are ready in sufficient numbers then the colony will be formed, if there still exists a need for it. Money is really one of the most weak and insignificant things under heaven. If you doubt this statement look around you at the people who have it and see what it is doing for them. Those who have money usually have nothing else; those who haven't money usually are well endowed with brains and moral gifts. Those who have neither money nor the high qualifications just mentioned are in a deep sleep, therefore I cannot see that it matters particularly to them whether the heavens fall or not! It may be that somewhere a person breathes who is wealthy (in "this world's goods") and who also possesses high spiritual growth, but if there is such an one he has not taken the trouble to enter my circle of acquaintances! ! Yet, the future may show to me even this strange thing. Then, indeed, will I admit the world's eighth wonder. If money had any real helpfulness in colony formation, why have we no successful colonies? Enough money has been sunk in this direction to found a score of colonies, and this within the past ten years. The ideal colony will rest upon the W. G. principle of individual perfectness and attempts in all other directions will end in failure, or incompleteness.

—The principle points of astronomical interest for February are as follows: Partial eclipse of the sun, just before sunset, Feb. 1st, visible at Washington; conjunction of the moon with Venus, Feb. 5th at 5.45 p.m.; Mars, Feb. 11, at 2.45 p.m.; Neptune, Feb. 11 at 7.30 p.m.; Jupiter, Feb. 17 at 7 p.m.; Uranus, Feb. 23 at 1 p.m.; Saturn, Feb. 23 at 4.15 p.m.; Mercury, March 1 at 8 a.m.

—We make you this *special limited offer*: We will send the *Oracle* on trial for four months for 15 cents. The subscription must be received at this office before our March number is mailed, which will be about Feb. 25th.



—One of the most wonderful degrees of W. G. Philosophy is the Continued Consciousness degree. As taught in our private lessons this branch of the Philosophy possesses much interest and originality. The position is taken that the soul is identical with (part of) the Creator of All. Could we (the mind and body) come thoroughly *en rapport* with our souls, then we could know all life's mystery and be no longer blindly under the dominion of "fate." From centuries of error and false belief in the power of the intellect and sense to bring us peace, we cannot easily grasp the great importance of this idea. The Fount of all knowledge is within, however, and in no way can this truth be more forcibly realized than through the attainment of Continued Consciousness. In our "White Eagle" lessons this subject is clearly taught and practical methods given in the line of mastering all the basic principles.

—Perhaps the most serious obstacle in the path of the occult student is his foolish idea regarding the importance of possessing gifts for producing phenomena. It usually takes several years to struggle through this period, and, in the majority of cases, the student devotes his whole life to it and knows no higher ambition. It seems to me a most useless waste of time and force. The phenomena stage is a most helpful and necessary one to pass through, but we squander valuable time when we halt and make it a permanent attachment of our lines.

—"What is a 'Master'?" This question is discussed in No. 5 of our "Esoteric Development" series, issued in 1891-'92. Also in the same series (No. 10) we have the main portion of an able article entitled "The Building of the Temple." Both pamphlets will be mailed for 10 cents. Silver or one cent stamps accepted.

—That pure and uplifting journal, "Self Knowledge," devotes a large share of its January issue to extracts from W. G. Philosophy. I feel very grateful for this favor.

Prayer is the soul's sincere desire,
If uttered or unexpressed.
The motion of a hidden fire,
That trembles in the breast.

Prayer is the burden of a sigh,
The falling of a tear,
The upward glancing of an eye,
When none but God is near.

[MONTGOMERY.]

With the next issue of the *Oracle* we shall begin a study of the Zodiacal Constellations in detail, taking that group in mid-heaven (at 8 p.m.) for the current month. Thus every person may become familiar with the members of his or her constellation. The directions will be extremely simple and easily comprehended.

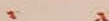
—The "Messenger" is a new 8 page monthly, devoted to W. G Philosophy. It is issued upon the 15th of each month. Subscription, 25 cents per year. The *Messenger* and *Oracle* both to one address for 65 cents.

--"The Society of V. H." is the title of a new, interesting and helpful leaflet. It is an address to young men, but may be read by all people who aspire to live an ideal and useful life. The price is ten cents, or three copies for 25 cents.

—Are you a member of the W. G. Brotherhood? As soon as we can get the membership list in shape we shall send out regular instructions for silent sessions. Be sure and send date of birth and whether married or single.

—The Moon Table, by hours, for the entire year (1897) is now ready. Price, ten cents.

This Journal is published in the interests of all people who are struggling
with environment; who are seeking a comprehension of the earth
mission; who are striving to know the scope and the right uses
of the dormant powers of the "Temple of the Holy
Ghost," namely, the human body.



Subscription 50 Cents per Year. Single Copies, 5 Cents.

Address inquiries and make remittances to

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THE ORACLE,

EXPONENT OF WEST GATE PHILOSOPHY,

A Journal of Progress, Dedicated to the People of High Ideals

HERALD OF A NEW SYSTEM OF OCCULT TRAINING.



Teach me your mood, O patient stars!
Who climb each night the ancient sky,
Leaving no space, no shade, no scars,
No trace of age, no fear to die. *Emerson.*



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No. 9.

ENTERED AT THE BOSTON POST-OFFICE AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.